1116 enhancing the quantity by half a seer each month. It was found that the issues were going high and therefore Government suspected some fraud has been going on, and we restricted it.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ കുട്ടി: ഗവൺമെണ്ടിന് ലാഭമല്ലേ വിലകൂട്ടുകയാണെങ്കിൽ?

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. വി. റാഫേൽ: ലാഭമുണ്ട്.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Why should you restrict it?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Very high consumption.

Mr. Ismail Hajee Essa Sait *(Mattancheri):* What is the reason for restriction?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Because Government found it was going out of proportion to the previous year's figures. Therefore they thought that some restriction was necessary.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* If more people like to have ganja, why should Government stand in their way? If more quantity is consumed, so much gain for the Government.

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* People have not protested against it.

SUPPLY OF SLATES TO DEPRESSED CLASS STUDENTS—PARTICULARS REGARDING

207. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the price at which slates for supply to the Depressed Classes students were purchased in this academic year;

(*b*) who was the contractor and what was his quotation at the time of submitting his tender;

(*c*) whether there were not quotations at lower rates for slates received by the Hon'ble Minister or the Protector of the Depressed Classes; if so, from whom and at what rate?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) Rs.0—3—0.

(*b*) Messrs. V. Sundara Ayyar and Sons, Trichur. 17½ per cent less than the estimate rates.

(*c*) No separate quotations for slates alone were called for.

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